Removal of Pollutants from forests

3431. SHRI R. K. ANAND: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to remove garbage and plastic bags from forests beyond municipal limits, so as to save them from pollution, besides protecting flora and fauna;

(b) whether it is a forest department's responsibility to keep forests pollution free; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government are aware that a number of animals get electrocuted while attempting to cross border between India and Pakistan because of electrification of Indian fencing; if so, what steps are being taken to prevent such cruel deaths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Under Section 27, sub-section (4) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 littering of the grounds of sanctuary is a punishable offence. The said provision of the Act applies to National Parks also. The responsibility of implementing the aforesaid provision vests with the State Forest Departments.

(c) No case of electrocution of animals while attempting to crossing the border between India and Pakistan have been brought to the notice of this Ministry.

Rivers polluted by industries in U.P.

†3432. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rivers in Uttar Pradesh are getting polluted due to certain industries;

(b) if so, the details of such industries;

(c) whether Government propose to take action against these industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) to (d) According to the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, no acute problem of river pollution is reported in Uttar Pradesh due to industrial pollution. A total of 241 defaulting industries have been indentified which are discharging effluents into rivers and lakes in Uttar Pradesh. Out of these, 175 units have adopted requisite pollution control facilities, 59 units are closed. 7 units are defaulting and facing legal action.

Environmental Clearance for Stadia at Secunderabad

3433. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the citizens of Secunderabad are opposing the move to convert the Gymkhana ground and Bison Polo ground there into stadia, on account of serious environmental damage for the people of Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to refuse Environmental clearance for the stadia in the city area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) news item has appeared in the daily newspaper "Deccan Chronicle" on 12.7.2000 regarding opposition by the citizens of Secunderabad to convert the Gymkhana ground and Bison Polo ground into stadia.

(b) Ministry of Environment and Forests have not received any proposal for environmental clearance in this regard.

Joint Forest Management Scheme

3434. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 362 and 373, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th August, 2000 and state:

(a) the details of the Joint Forest Management Scheme including criteria for selecting villages and specific development projects indentified, if any;

(b) the machinery proposed for providing funds to villagers; and

(c) the monitoring agency proposed for evaluating progress of the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT